

## County of Los Angeles

## Sheriff's Department Headquarters 4700 Ramona Boulevard Monterey Park, California 91754–2169



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

October 17, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CENTRALIZED HOUSING AND CLASSIFICATION QUARTERLY UPDATE

On January 17, 2006, your Board requested that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) provide quarterly updates on the new centralized housing and classification system for inmates, including implementation and adherence of new protocols and policies, the timeliness and accuracy of reclassifications, and ongoing staff training.

Since the last quarterly update report to your Board concerning the central housing and classification of jail inmates on July 21, 2006, the Department has continued the implementation of the centralized housing policy based upon inmate security levels. All incoming inmates are assigned housing locations based upon an initial screening to determine their appropriate security level. Inmate security levels can be changed for a variety of reasons after the inmates are assigned to housing, including dropped charges, additional charges and warrants, sentencing, inmate behavior, etc. The Central Housing Units (North and South) audit their assigned housing areas on a daily basis to check for inmates whose security levels have changed and do not match their current housing locations. Once a discrepancy is discovered, arrangements to rehouse the inmate to an appropriate housing location is made.

Due to the constantly changing demographics of the inmate population, the Central Housing Unit reviews and adjusts the Department's master housing plan, as necessary, to facilitate maximum usage of available bed space.

In July 2006, the Department, in cooperation with the Honorable Judge Dean Pregerson and the American Civil Liberties Union, agreed to reduce the inmate count at the Men's Central Jail by 1,200 bunks. The Department also agreed to return four dayrooms at Men's Central Jail that were used as overflow housing areas to their originally intended purpose as recreational rooms. The loss of 1,200 bunks was partially offset by the opening of the final two floors of Tower II at Twin Towers Correctional Facility, which realized a gain of 768 bunks, as well as the opening of an additional compound at the North Annex facility, in which 252 bunks were gained. The Central Housing Unit coordinated all of these inmate movements while maintaining the security-level integrity of the involved housing areas.

The Department continues to move forward with plans to replace the antiquated technology of the Automated Jail Information System (AJIS) that is currently used to track inmate movement and housing with Syscon's Jail Information Management System (JIMS), a more current, flexible, and powerful software system. The Department currently has an Information Technology Support Services Master Agreement (ITSSMA) published for a software bridge to allow the JIMS software to communicate with and take over certain functions of AJIS. The Central Housing Unit will supervise these technological improvements to ensure a smooth and successful implementation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Chief Marc Klugman, Correctional Services Division, at (213) 893-5017.

Sincerely,

LEROY, D. BACA, SHERIFF

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LARRY L. WALDIE UNDERSHERIFF